

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 6913

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KE, KS

SUBJECT: KENYAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT TO SEOUL

REF: NAIROBI 9092

1. ACCORDING TO MOFA UN AND EAST AFRICA DIVISION CHIEFS KENYAN FOREIGN MINISTER WAIYAKI SUPPORTED IN GENERAL TERMS THE CONCEPT OF A DIRECT DIALOGUE BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA TO SETTLE THEIR PROBLEMS ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA, BUT STOPPED SHORT OF GIVING A COMMITMENT TO SUPPORT THE ROK IN THE UNGA DEBATE ON KOREA THIS YEAR. MOFA SAID THAT WAIYANKI HAD EXTENDED FOREIGN MINISTER PAK TONG-CHIN AN INVITATION TO VISIT KENYA, WHICH THE FONMIN ACCEPTED, BUT, AFTER CHECKING, DENIED THAT PRESIDENT PAK CHONG-HUI HAD BEEN EXTENDED OR HAD ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO VISIT KENYA. HAN SOK-JIN (EAST AFRICA DIVISION CHIEF) SPECULATED THAT KENYAN PRESS MAY HAVE CONFUDUED THE TWO MEN BECAUSE OF THEIR IDENTICAL SURNAMES.

2. THE KENYAN FOREIGN MINISTER'S VISIT RECEIVED WIDESPREAD PRESS COVERAGE AND THE PARTY WAS TREATED TO THE BEST IN KOREAN HOSPITALITY, WITH PARTICULAR
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EMPHASIS ON TOURS OF ROK INDUSTRIAL AREAS.

3. ALTHOUGH JOINT COMMUNIQUE REFERRED TO BOTH MINISTERS' EXPRESSION OF SUPPORT FOR "FURTHER STRENGTHENING OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION, " NO SPECIFIC AGREEMENTS WERE REACHED IN ECONOMIC FIELD. SIMILARLY, BRIEF MENTION OF FISHERIES WAS CONFINED TO GENERALITIES. ACCORDING TO HAN, KENYANS DID NOT ASK FOR ANY AID ON THIS TRIP.

4. HAN FURTHER STATED THAT HE FELT FONMIN WAIYAKI'S PURPOSES IN VISITING KOREA WERE A) TO SEE REAL SITUATION IN KOREA AND B) TO SEE SOUTH KOREA'S "ECONOMIC MIRACLE." HAN SAID THAT KOREAN EMBASSY IN NAIROBI HAD REPORTED THAT WAIYAKI, AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON HIS RETURN, HAD URGED KENYAN BUSINESSMEN TO BUY KOREAN PRODUCTS BECAUSE THEY WERE CHEAP AND OF GOOD QUALITY. HAN STATED KOREA'S GOAL FOR EXPORTS TO KENYA IN 1976 IS \$20 MILLION. HAN ADDED THAT A NON-GOVERNMENTAL ECONOMIC MISSION SOON TO LEAVE FOR SOUTH AMERICA HAD ADDED KENYA TO ITS SCHEDULE AND WOULD ARRIVE AROUND THE END OF SEPTEMBER. SNEIDER

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